

Minutes  
Faculty Senate Steering Committee  
Tuesday, October 23, 2018  
3B Conwell Hall

Attendance:

Present: Cornelius Pratt (Pres., KMC) Rafael Porrata-Doria (Vice-Pres., Law) Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon (Secy., TFMA), Michael Sachs, (Past-Pres., CPH), Shohreh Amini (CST), Betsy Barber (STHM), Teresa Gill Cirillo (FSB), Sue Dickey (Secy., CPH), Lisa Ferretti (SSW), Paul LaFollette (Fac. Herald, CST), Austin Leong (KSoD), Sharyn O'Mara (ART), Vallorie Peridier (CST), Melissa Potts (Pharm), Mark Rahdert (Law), , Carmen Sapienza (LKSM), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Kimberly Williams (CLA), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Quaiser Abdullah (COE),

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm

2. Approval of October 9, 2018 minutes:

Moved and seconded to accept minutes as presented

3. President's Report Cornelius Pratt:

Regarding the Senate/TAUP survey: One week from today Cornelius Pratt has a meeting with Kevin Delaney and Jodi Laufgraben. The university was concerned because the cover letter was slanted to the disfavor of Temple. Cornelius suggested that there will be more discussion on the instrument that the administration finds unfavorable at that meeting and he promised to keep Faculty Senate updated. The administration has summaries of the result.

Sue Dickey (CPH): When will we be able to get the summaries of the survey?

CP: By now the results of the survey should have been distributed to the faculty but now because of recent events, the administration has held off approval to release the results of the survey.

Williams-Witherspoon (Secy, TFMA): Because the survey was administered by the FSSC and TAUP, how could the administration hold up the release of the results from the recent survey?

CP: I told Provost Epps that we would ensure the anonymity of the respondents.

Paul LaFollette (Fac. Her.): The precedent has been that one or more of the officers would go to these kind of meetings.

Michael Sachs (Past-Pres, CPH): We also would have little to no control over what TAUP does so if they choose to release the results then we have no control over that. There would be pushback but if they choose to release [the results of the survey] there would be nothing that we could do.

4. Vice President's Report: Rafael Porrata-Doria

I have two applicants for Senate committees:

- Timothy Patterson (COE) Library Committee
- Seema Freer (CST) EPPC

Moved and approved for committees

RPD: Thank you. I have one other piece in my report. You may all remember our old friend the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee. It has been in suspended animation or a coma. I have had an extensive conversation with Kevin Delaney, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs. There are two items that they would like to have revisions. Three fairly limited topics:

- Nomenclature
- Disciplinary policies and actions
- Section on Clinical educators

Mark Rahdert (Law): In my role as chair of the Senate Personnel Committee, I have had extended conversations on disciplinary issues. I would be willing to serve on this committee.

LaFollette: Since I have been on this committee for about 13 years, I would be willing to continue to serve.

RPD: The schools with clinical educators include Podiatry, Dentistry, Medical and the Law school. We should probably have some representation on the committees from those schools as well.

LaFollette: Can you please speak to someone to call a meeting

There was an open discussion about SFF's and the new configuration and charge of the Assessment of Instruction committee listed as a faculty senate committee.

Sharyn O'Mara (Art): SFFs, we can't trust anonymous feedback but the SFFs are taken at face value.

Rahdert: I would suggest having someone from the committee coming to one of our steering committee meetings to make a report.

Pratt: On an additional note: In a meeting with the president, because we are losing money, Fox Chase may be on the block. The committee was formed to look at the med school. Fox Chase went down in their ranking. If our relationship goes away, then all those facilities go as well.

Dickey (CPH): Jeanes? Jeanes is a community-level hospital. If they sell the Fox Chase Hospital. They need a new building. Comparison with Jefferson and Abrams at Penn. The need to upgrade the rooms.

Terry Cirillo (FSB) shared with us that the Library committee is a university committee and that Dean Lucia is chairing.

A question for Dean Lucia when he arrives at the FSSC today: The Library Committee is a senate committee that has seemingly been morphed into something else. When and how did that happen without Faculty Senate input?

There was also a question about the Honors Committee. Is it supposed to have administrators in it?

5. **Guests:** Susan B Smith, Deputy University Counsel

Smith: Cornelius asked us to come to talk about legal topics and Julia and I will introduce ourselves and tell you why we are immanently qualified to talk about this. We are all barraged with so many issues that I thought we would could come and talk about our office and how we could be useful for Faculty Senate.

Watch words:

Risk and Compliance

I don't have to tell all of you what a massive job it is to run this university.

We have 11 labor unions

We are not risk averse... We don't steer clear of it; we just want to manage it.

Proposal

Our offices are in Sullivan Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

We have eight attorneys and one paralegal

Seven attorneys for the health science campus

When you start dealing with the number of faculty, number of students, and real estate holdings, that isn't really a large team.

Betsy Barber (STHM): This seems like a small group to me. Is there a plan to fill that gap?

Smith: No, there's no plan because of budget. With Litigation, your schedule is not your own. For litigation, we do have to farm that out. We are an incredibly competent group and we all work really hard. We are here all the time.

When asked about DACA and/or issues with students, Smith suggested that individuals could contact Martyn Miller for DACA students but warned that if they don't have a visa they cannot do anything. Smith also suggested reaching out to Stephanie Ives for student concerns.

Some of the other issues handled by that office include:

- Provost's portfolio
- Temple TAUP
- Negotiations of Collective Bargaining
- Radiation and Environmental Safety

Smith said, "I really love working here."

Carmen Sapienza (LKSM): The medical school is doing a five-year evaluation –great dissent on the part of the faculty.

Susan Smith: As counsel, I represent the University.

There is the assessment that this university implementation of policy is full of bureaucracy has to be addressed. Where other institutions take 48 hours to respond to most issues, here we take weeks.

Julie Introduced herself as a junior attorney, graduated from Temple Law in the last year.

She works with the research component, and chips in to help Susan with various other projects.

We do a lot of triage. We do a lot of reacting, responding and affirming. We do a lot of advising and counseling, training and development, relationship building. How you can use us, we can be available as we talk to collegial assemblies.

To talk about issues to help understand compliance issues, especially with regard to minors on campus.

Minors on campus:

For all intent and purpose, we are a state institution (even though we are not) and as such, we have to adhere to the letter of the law.

Pratt: What's your take on the Faculty Handbook? There seems to be some inconsistency between what the handbook states and what happens in reality.

Porrata-Doria: Kevin Delaney has gotten in touch with us and suggested that there are some areas that need to be updated.

Susan Smith: Discipline and dismissal areas are some of the issues that need to be updated. I have a lot of institutional memory. Very involved in assisting and drafting the document. We have to make sure there is consistency in step with other university policy. HEPA or rules that appear in other bylaws.

Two or three years ago, we looked through the handbook and people said not a lot needs to change. Now it may need to have some changes.

Another issue: DRS letters have to be returned because it can create enormous liability issue for the University.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

None

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:03 pm.

Next FSSC meeting: Tuesday November 6, 2018 1pm

Submitted by,

Kimika Williams-Witherspoon  
Senate Secretary